



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
) Before the Examiner
Jan Alan EGLEN, et al.)
) Unassigned
Serial No. 10/084,777)
) Group Art Unit 2165
Filed February 27, 2002)
) September 18, 2002
DIGITAL ONLINE EXCHANGE)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

September 18, 2002

(Date of Deposit)

Charles P. Schmal

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

September 18, 2002

Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment, prior to examination, in the above-identified patent application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 7, at line 3, please delete the present description of FIG. 30 and substitute the following:

--FIGS. 30A-E shows a diagrammatic view of data flow between database servlets in the FIG. 2 system. --

At page 64, at line 7, please delete the present paragraph and substitute the following:

-- As shown in FIGS. 30A-E, each database server 208 includes a number of servlets 2801 that perform specific tasks on the database server 208. Perform query

servlet 3002 can be called by any other part the dynamic pricing system 102, as shown by arrow 3004. As shown by arrow 3006, servlet 3002 can query, insert and/or delete records from the tables 302 of the databases 225. The results of the query, as indicated with arrow 3008, can be returned to servlet 3002. --

At page 65, at line 15, please delete the present paragraph and substitute the following:

-- As illustrated in FIG. 30C, get media file information servlet 3028 is used to retrieve media and pricing information that is used by the file servers 210. As shown by arrow 3030, the file servers 210 can call servlet 3208. The media information servlet 3028 first sends all requests (arrow 3032) to the media cache 3016. If cache 3016 is able to process the request, the search results (arrow 3034) are returned to servlet 3028. When cache 3016 is unable to process the request, the search request is then processed by the media 304 and pricing 306 tables (arrow 3036). In response to the request, tables 304 and 306 insert a new entry corresponding to the search results into the media cache (arrow 3036) and return the search results to the media information servlet 3028 (arrow 3040). Afterwards, the search results from servlet 3028 are then returned to the calling file server 210. --

At page 66, at line 3, please delete the present paragraph and substitute the following:

-- As depicted with arrow 3042 in FIG. 30D, the file servers 210 call increment demand servlet 3044 to increase the quantity demand for an item in the media cache 3016.

Servlet 3044 can either insert a new demand entry or update a demand entry for an item in cache 3016 (arrow 3046). For instance, when an item is purchased and downloaded the file server 210 will call the increment demand servlet 3044 in order record an order of the item. If a record for the item is not in cache 3016, increment demand servlet 3044 will create a new record in cache for the item. The record in cache 3016 can contain the media ID 318 and demand 348 (or 350) fields. When a record for the item already exists in cache, servlet 3044 increases the number contained in the demand field 350. Periodically, cache 3016 is cleaned and the demand information contained therein is transferred to the media 304 and pricing 306 tables before cleaning. --

At page 67, at line 18, please delete the present paragraph and substitute the following:

--In FIG. 30E, the cleaning thread 3054 periodically removes items with low demand from the media cache 3016, as shown by arrow 3062, and commits these items removed from cache 3016 to the media 304 and pricing 306 tables, as indicated by arrow 3064. For instance, when the demand for an item in the last dynamic pricing period was zero (0), the cleaning thread 3054 removes the information about the item, such as the media ID, price and demand, from the media cache 3016 and commits this information to tables 304 and 306. It should be understood that the dynamic pricing system 102 can include a single cleaning thread 3054, multiple cleaning threads 3054 or no cleaning threads 3054 at all. For example, no cleaning threads 3054 are needed, when cache is not used. In one form, the cleaning thread 3054 operates periodically in conjunction with a corresponding pricing thread 3052. For example, each pricing thread 3052 can have a

corresponding cleaning thread 3054 that runs either before or after the pricing thread 3052 dynamically prices items. In another form, the cleaning thread 3054 periodically operates at a different time interval as compared to the corresponding pricing thread 3052. --

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

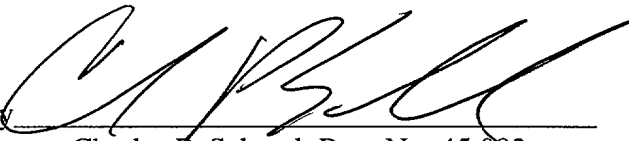
Please enter the above amendments to the specification prior to examination. In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts, formal drawings have been submitted with this amendment. In order to conform to Patent Office drawing requirements, FIG. 30 is now FIGS. 30A-E. The above changes to the specification were made in order to reflect this change to FIG. 30. Since these changes are not substantive, it is submitted that no new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

Attached hereto are three (3) pages which present a marked up version of the changes made to this application by the current amendment. The first page of the three attached pages is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If, after reviewing this amendment, the Examiner feels that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

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